

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 IO-10 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

/067 W

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R 190934Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4632

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY SANAA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE AMMAN 3338

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

GENEVA FOR MEPCDEL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, JO, EG

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT SADAT VISITS JORDAN

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1. SUMMARY: PRESIDENT SADAT RECEIVED ENTHUSIASTIC PUBLIC WELCOME DURING VISIT TO JORDAN (FIRST EVER BY AN EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT) MAY 16-17. HE HELD ALMOST THREE HOURS OF PRIVATE TALKS WITH KING HUSSEIN, VISIT MILITARY INSTALLATIONS, AND PARTICIPATED IN JOINT DELEGATION TALKS. PALESTINIAN ISSUE NOT MENTIONED IN SADAT'S OFFICIAL STATEMENTS. IN PRESS CONF, HOWEVER, SWORE TO LIBERATE PALESTINIAN LANDS, AND REFERRED TO GENEVA AS "THE ONLY PLACE FOR MAKING PEACE...THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR GENEVA AT ALL". END SUMMARY

2. PRESIDENT SADAT VISIT JORDAN MAY 16-17 IN FIRST VISIT EVER OF AN EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT TO AMMAN. SADAT AND LARGE ACCOMPANYING DELEGATION RECEIVED WARM PUBLIC WELCOME, WHICH OUR JORDANIAN CONTACTS HAVE POINTED TO AS EVIDENCE OF GROWING COHESION IN ARAB RANKS. BUSY SCHEDULE LAID ON BY JORDANIANS INCLUDED TWO PRIVATE SADAT-HUSSEIN SESSIONS LASTING ALMOST THREE HOURS, FULL-DRESS FORMAL MEETINGS BETWEEN EGYPTIAN AND JORDANIAN DELEGATIONS, MILITARY BRIEFING BY JORDANIAN COS BIN SHAKER, TOUR OF UNDEFINED "FRONTLINE AREA" (TV PICTURES SHOWED SADAT OVERLOOKING GOLAN, TIBERIAS, JORDAN VALLEY FROM UM QEIS), VISIT TO KING HUSSEIN AIR BASE AT MAFRAQ AND EVENING BANQUET.

3. SADAT'S OFFICIAL STATEMENTS, IN WHICH ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT WAS DOMINANT THEME, STRESSED GLOWING PRAISE OF JORDAN'S ROLE AS CONFRONTATION STATE, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO ITS 1967 SACRIFICES, AND EGYPT'S DESIRE FOR PEACE WITH QUID PRO QUO. SADAT DREW APPLAUSE IN BANQUET SPEECH BY POINTING OUT THAT EGYPT HAD DEMANDED NOTHING FROM ISRAEL IN RETURN FOR RECENT HANDING OVER 39 ISRAELI BODIES. "WHEN WE OPEN THE SUEZ CANAL...,WHEN WE EXTEND THE UNEF MANDATE.... WHEN WE HAND OVER THE BODIES OF THEIR DEAD, THE ENEMY BECOMES MORE OBDURATE AND ARROGANT." PALESTINIAN ISSUE NOT MENTIONED IN OFFICIALS STATEMENTS. SPEECH PUT HEAVY STRESS ON ARAB UNITY.

4. IN SHORT PRESS CONFERENCE PRIOR TO DEPARTURE FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DAMASCUS, SADAT COMMENTED ON RELATIONS WITH PALESTINIANS (FBIS LD172227). NOTED THAT ALTHOUGH AT ALEXANDRIA "I TRIED TO FIND A COMMON GROUND BETWEEN KING HUSSEIN AND THE PALESTINIAN BROTHERS,....THEY THOUGHT THINGS DIFFERENTLY...UNFORTUNATELY WE ARE STILL BEING AFFECTED BY EMOTIONS OR BY PAST EVENTS." COMMENTED ALSO THAT GENEVA IS "THE ONLY PALCE FOR MAKING PEACE...THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR GENEVA AT ALL.

5. COMMENT: "NEVERTHELES, AS SADAT DID ELSEWHERE, HE WAS CAREFUL NOT TO SLAM THE DOOR ON WHATEVER ELSE MAY COME ALONG, AND SPECIFICALLY ANOTHER KISSINGER INITIATIVE. ALSO, HIS DISCUSSION OF GENEVA CARRIED WITH IT A SENSE THAT GENEVA AS AN OVERARCHING FRAMEWORK CAN CONTAIN ALL STEPS AND MOVES TOWARD PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

6. AT THIS POINT, EMBASSY HAS LITTLE TO ADD TO PUBLIC SOURCES. NO JOINT COMMUNIQUE WAS ISSUED.
PICKERING

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CHIEF OF STATE VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975AMMAN03338
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750175-0494
From: AMMAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750537/aaaabhew.tel
Line Count: 127
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <19 JUN 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT SADAT VISITS JORDAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
TAGS: PFOR, JO, EG, (SADAT, ANWAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006